

DR. R. S. YEGERLEHNER

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I was born in Clay County, Indiana just a little this side of the turn of the century - November 25, 1904.

My family consisted of six boys and one girl. We lived on a farm where each member had his work cut out to do and since there was hardly enough jobs outside to go around, I spent many hours working at woman's work in the house. I was almost through high school before I knew to which sex I belonged. One thing I do remember in those early years was the reason I am called Jake instead of my real name. I made a deal with my mother - which neither she nor I followed - but my sister and brothers still call me the name I liked so well - Jake.

My first eight grades of school were in the one room country type. High school was attended in Clay City, Indiana and then the first four years of college in what is now Indiana State University in Terre Haute, Indiana. Up to the time I attended college, I had not been out of the county in which I was born - even though the county line was only about three miles from our home. The nearest town, Clay City, was in the other direction.

My main interest after four years of college was education. I taught school nine years - two in a one room country school. My masters degree was obtained in 1931 at Indiana University. Things changed and after my masters degree I started to Indiana University Medical School in 1934. After graduation in 1938 I interned at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Lafayette. From 1939 to 1942 I was in General Practice in Kentland, Indiana. The U. S. Navy gave me a three year nine month vacation. Most of my time was spent in the South Pacific, the Solomon Islands. Following my discharge I returned to Kentland, Indiana and practiced there until 1967. Then to cut my 25 hour day and 3 day week to more normal conditions, I accepted a position at Purdue University as one of the physicians in General Practice for the Purdue student population. This position I now hold.

During my time in Terre Haute I met Gladys Foster and was married two years after graduation from Indiana State University. We have three sons. Son number one has a Ph.D. in Anthropology and Linguistics and is in university teaching. Son number 2 is with an insurance company in Indianapolis and is attending law school evenings at I.U.P.U.I. Son number 3 is a United Methodist minister and going to Boston University and is about to attain his Ph.D. in Old Testament studies.